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HAIR CELL DISORDERS

Abstract

Ligands which bind to the HER2 and/or HER3 receptors are useful as inner-ear-supporting cell growth factors to enhance proliferation-mediated generation of new hair cells.

1. A method for enhancing proliferation-mediated generation of new hair cells in the inner ear, comprising administering to a subject a ligand which binds to the HER2 and/or HER3 receptors.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a growth factor.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a polypeptide.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a peptide.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a protein.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a nucleic acid.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a small molecule.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a derivative of a growth factor.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a derivative of a polypeptide.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a derivative of a peptide.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a derivative of a protein.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a derivative of a nucleic acid.

13. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a derivative of a small molecule.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a derivative of a growth factor.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a derivative of a polypeptide.

16. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a derivative of a peptide.

17. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a derivative of a protein.

18. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a derivative of a nucleic acid.

19. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a derivative of a small molecule.

20. The method of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a derivative of a growth factor.